



United States Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service

Energy Enhancement Activity – Energy Use Reduction for Stationary Sources

Energy Use Reduction for Stationary Sources Enhancement

The cost of energy, especially petroleum, is increasing dramatically. Not since the early 1970's have we seen such sharp price increases in petroleum. With supplies dwindling and demands increasing, prices should continue to rise.

Energy expenses are a significant portion of many farms' budgets. With operating margins tight, especially for small farms, energy costs play a key role in their survival. To ensure profitability farming and ranching operators should seek out any and all opportunities to conserve energy and reduce costs.

Benefits

In addition to saving money the advantages of energy conservation include reducing air pollutants, stemming global greenhouse gas emissions, and decreasing our reliance on foreign oil.

Criteria for Energy Use Reduction for Stationary Sources Enhancement Activity

- Acceptance of this enhancement requires that the client determine their baseline energy use for stationary equipment by having an energy audit done by a professional auditor or by using the web based self assessment tool found at this address, <http://144.92.31.19/>. This tool* allows the user to conduct baseline energy assessments for irrigation, lighting, grain drying, water fountains, greenhouses, potatoes, beef, and dairy systems.
- To implement this enhancement an operator must make energy use changes based on the energy audit or self assessment tool. Energy reduction results are measured in British Thermal Units (Btus). A companion Worksheet, **Btu Conversion Worksheet** is also available from NRCS field offices to assist with converting a variety of energy measurement units into Btu's.

** This web tool is still in the early stages of development. If the component of the tool for which the user is seeking assistance is not working properly they should check back frequently to get updates.*

Reference:

Brown, Elizabeth, R.Neal Elliott, 2005, On-farm Energy Use Characterizations, Report No. IE052, ACEEE <http://www.aceee.org/pubs/ie052full.pdf>

Brown, Elizabeth, R.Neal Elliott, 2005, Potential Energy Efficiency Savings in the Agriculture Sector, Report No. IE053, ACEEE <http://www.aceee.org/pubs/ie053full.pdf>